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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/659,428	09/08/2000	Chhedi Lal Verma	FRB208	2946

7590 11/27/2001

Horst M Kasper
13 Forest Drive
Warren, NJ 07059

[REDACTED] EXAMINER

MEINECKE DIAZ, SUSANNA M

[REDACTED] ART UNIT

[REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER

2163

DATE MAILED: 11/27/2001

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit 2163

MISCELLANEOUS OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

1. This miscellaneous office correspondence is being written in response to Applicant's submission of a Preliminary Amendment received by the Patent Office on October 18, 2000 (a copy of which was received on September 26, 2001). Before submission of this Preliminary Amendment, only claims 1-10 were pending. The Preliminary Amendment did not cancel any claims, yet it added claims 21-27. Under Rule 1.126, these claims were renumbered as claims 11-17, respectively; however, the Preliminary Amendment makes mention of claims 1-10 being cancelled and claims 11-27 being pending. There is no cancellation of claims 1-10 in the record nor is there any record of the claims that Applicant refers to as claims 11-20; therefore, the Examiner is unclear as to which claims the Applicant intends to be presented for examination.

The Examiner attempted to contact Applicant's representative, Horst Kasper (Reg. No. 28,559), on August 22, 2001 for clarification of the matter outlined above; however, this call was not returned. Several weeks later, another representative from the attorney's office inquired about the status of the present case. At this point, the Examiner explained the situation. The Patent Office subsequently received another Preliminary Amendment on September 26, 2001 which turned out to be a copy of the Preliminary Amendment received by the Patent Office on October 18, 2000. Finally, the Examiner again unsuccessfully attempted to contact Applicant's representative, Horst Kasper, on November 13, 2001.

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The Examiner respectfully requests that the Applicant clarify the status of the claims, keeping in mind that the claims submitted as claims 21-27 have been respectively renumbered as claims 11-17 under Rule 1.126. **Applicant is given a shortened statutory period of ONE MONTH or THIRTY DAYS from the mailing date of this letter, whichever is longer, to submit a complete reply.**

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Susanna M. Diaz whose telephone number is (703) 305-1337. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 5:30 am - 4 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tariq Hafiz can be reached on (703) 305-9643. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239 for Official communications, (703) 746-7240 for Non-Official communications, and (703) 746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900 or to the Customer Service Office on (703) 306-5631.

SMD
November 14, 2001

TARIQ R. HAFIZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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